

Applicant : George P. Merrill et al.
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REMARKS

Below, the applicant's comments are preceded by related remarks of the examiner set forth in small bold type.

1. The abstract is objected to –Where applicable, the abstract should include the following:

- (1)if a machine or apparatus, its organization and operation;
- (2)if an article, its method of making;
- (3)if a chemical compound, its identity and use;
- (4)if a mixture, its ingredients;
- (5)if a process, the steps.

The applicant has amended the abstract.

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required at is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The applicant contends that the title is descriptive of the invention.

4. Claims 1-10, 17-29, 31-33 and 38-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Parker, et al., "Hardware/Software Tradeoffs in a Variable Word Width, Variable Queue Length Buffer Memory".

Parker et al. teach a system for determining, configuring and adjusting a number of queue parameters including queue length (i.e., "depth") and word width (i.e., "queue entry size"), and utilizes queue status flags including full (F) and empty (E), and queue select lines to select from a number of queues, end of queue and start of queue indicators, and determining a next access (i.e., read or write) address in the queue to operate upon via the queue selection circuitry (i.e., pointer). Note also the teaching of operation with disk memory (column 2, page 159).

Regarding claim 1, Parker does not disclose or suggest "using a queue management process separate from the first process to configure one or more queues on a storage device in accordance with the at least one queue parameter." What Parker discloses is a buffer memory that "consists of four variable word width, variable length queues" (abstract), in which "the length of each queue is variable and can be changed as the application changes" (p. 159, right-

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hand column). Parker discloses that "the buffer can build one queue, then be reprogrammed to build another at a different address, then return and access the first, all under program control" (p. 159, right-hand column). While Parker discloses that the buffer can be reprogrammed to build queues at different addresses or to change lengths of the queues, Parker does not disclose using a queue management process separate from a first process to configure the queues in accordance with a queue parameter, in which the queue parameter is determined for the first process.

Claims 8, 22, and 31 are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Regarding claim 25, Parker does not disclose or suggest a queue management process that comprises "a queue base address process" and "a queue depth specification process." Although Parker discloses "the starting and ending addresses are input to the buffer, to be stored in registers. ... These addresses refer to the total physical queue length – in 32 bit physical words – allocated to each queue" (p. 161, right-hand column), Parker does not disclose or suggest "a queue based address process for specifying a starting address for each of said one or more queues required by a process running on a system," and "a queue depth specification process for configuring each said queue in accordance with a queue depth parameter provided by said process running on said system," as recited in claim 25.

Claims 27 and 29 are patentable for at least similar reasons as claim 25.

The dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as the claims on which they depend.

Any circumstance in which the applicant has addressed certain comments of the examiner does not mean that the applicant concedes other comments of the examiner. Any circumstance in which the applicant has made arguments for the patentability of some claims does not mean that there are not other good reasons for patentability of those claims and other claims. Any circumstance in which the applicant has amended a claim does not mean that the applicant concedes any of the examiner's positions with respect to that claim or other claims.

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Please apply \$450.00 for the Petition for Extension of Time fee and any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing attorney docket 10559-738001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

1/27/2005

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** See attached document certifying that Rex Huang has limited recognition to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 37 CFR § 10.9(b).*

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